(TSDF) have been installed. Being a critically polluted area, an action plan has also been drawn and implemented.

All the mines in Sukinda forest area of Orissa are being monitored by the Orissa SPCB. The State Board has issued notices to four mines during this year, which were found to be discharging mine drainage water without properly operating the effluent treatment plants. The Board has also directed the concerned mines to cap the tubewell where hexavalent chromium was found to be higher than the norms.

Elimination of rabies

1834. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Animal Welfare Board of India has initiated a new project—Project Rabies Free India—which is a national level projects, seeks to totally eliminate rabies from the country;

(b) if so, whether they have called upon citizens as well as Government to evolve a multi-pronged approach to the issue;

(c) whether the five-year project will help counter the most common problem faced in rabies control;

(d) if so, whether the WHO would help in this regard; and

(e) if so, to what extent it has been helpful for the country, especially for Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) No, Madam. However, under the programme/scheme of Animal Birth Control/Anti Rabies (ABC/AR), AWBI is giving grants-in-aid to recognized Animal Welfare Organisations and Municipal Corporations for control of stray dog population since 2004.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Project for beautification of hills and lakes of Rajasthan

1835. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received two proposals/projects from the Rajasthan Government for development and beautification of State's hill resorts Nakki lake in Mount Abu and Puskar Lake in Ajmer;

(b) if so, the reaction thereon and whether State will be asked to make it a time bound projects; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The State Government of Rajasthan has submitted proposals for 'Rejuvenation of Nakki lake in Mount Abu' and 'Conservation and Sustainable Management of Pushkar Sarovar in Ajmer' for their consideration under the National Lake Conservation Plan.

The proposal for 'Rejuvenation of Nakki Lake in Mount Abu' has been examined by the designated committee of the Ministry and accorded conditional approval. The decision has been communicated to the State Government.

The proposal for 'Conservation and Sustainable Management of Pushkar Sarovar in Ajmer' has also been examined and is under active consideration of this Ministry. The proposal awaits certain administrative inputs from the Government of Rajasthan. The State Government has been informed about the same.

Diversion of forest land for wind energy projects

1836. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in Sakri taluka of Dhule District of Maharashtra about 340 hectares of forest land has been diverted for wind energy projects depriving the rights of scheduled tribes and other traditional forest dwellers there;

(b) if so, what prompted Government to deprive to change mind at the cost of scheduled tribes and other forest dwellers;

(c) in case Government finally go for wind energy projects then whether Government is prepared to compensate them adequately; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Two wind energy projects covering an area of 340.46 hectares were accorded approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 during the year 2005-06 by the Central Government in Dhule district of Maharashtra, in which no displacement of people was involved.

(c) and (d) In projects where displacement of people is involved, the resettlement is done as per the Central Government and the concerned State Governments' Relief and Rehabilitation Policy. In case of displacement of people belonging to the Scheduled Tribes, the views of Ministry of Tribal Affairs are also taken into consideration.

Projects for tackling climate changes in the country

1837. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects on tackling climate change underway in the country;

(b) whether international assistance is being sought by Government to finance these projects to develop innovative means of tackling changes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has any proposal to constitute an Expert Group to study climate change; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) Several projects on multidisciplinary aspects of Climate Change have been completed and funded by the Government of India, Global